

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00591 100852Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
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O 100738Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3017
INFO 89TH MAW ANDREWS AFB MD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 0591

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)
SUBJECT: SECSTATE VISIT - BEIRUT

REF: BEIRUT 0515 (DTG 050837Z FEB 77)

1. ON FEB 7 RSO AND ADMIN OFFICER MET WITH INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES DIRGEN HISHAM SHA'AR AND DIRECTOR OF GENERAL SECURITY ANTOINE DAHDAH TO DISCUSS OVERALL SCENARIO AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT; AND ON FEB 8 RSO AND ADMIN OFFICER MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MEA, AIRPORT SECURITY, CUSTOMS, ASF AND GENDARMERIE TO DISCUSS SPECIFICS OF LOGISTICS AND SECURITY FOR VISIT.

2. APPROACH/LANDING. THE CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES HAVE AGREED, WEATHER CONDITIONS PERMITTING, TO ALLOW SECRETARY'S AIRCRAFT LAND AT BIA NORTH/SOUTH RUNWAY USING APPROACH PATTERN NUMBER 36. THIS APPROACH WILL ENABLE AIRCRAFT TO LAND WITHOUT FIRST FLYING OVER CITY ITSELF, OR PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS WHERE SOME ARMED ELEMENTS REMAIN. SHOULD WEATHER CONDITIONS PROHIBIT SUCH AN APPROACH, AIRCRAFT WILL STILL USE THE NORTH/SOUTH RUNWAY IN THE NORMAL LANDING PATTERN NUMBER 18, OVER-
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FLYING THE CITY. SAME PATTERN IN REVERSE WILL BE USED FOR DEPARTURE, CONDITIONS PERMITTING.

3. AIRCRAFT SPOTTING. THE SECRETARY'S AIRCRAFT WILL BE SPOTTED IN FRONT OF THE MEA ADMINISTRATIVE/HANGAR COMPLEX NEAR THE LEBANESE AIRFORCE COMPOUND.

4. AIRCRAFT SUPPORT: MEA HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE ALL SUPPORT NECESSARY (STAIRS, START CAR, POWER CART) FOR AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING AIRCRAFT CLEANING SERVICE FOR LAVATORIES, IF DESIRED. PLEASE ADVISE.

5. AIRCRAFT SECURITY: AIRPORT SECURITY PERSONNEL WILL PROVIDE A FIVE-MAN DETAIL FOR BOUNDARY GUARDS FOR THE AIRCRAFT. THE EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE ROPE AND STANCHIONS. IN ADDITION, A FIVE-MAN MOBILE REACTION FORCE WILL BE ON STANDBY AT PLANE SIDE.

6. MOTORCADE/ROUTE. SUFFICIENT VEHICLES AND PERSONNEL WILL BE PROVIDED WITHIN THE MOTORCADE AND ALONG THE ROUTE TO ENSURE MOTORCADE AND ROUTE SECURITY. ROUTE SECURITY WILL CONSIST OF ARAB SECURITY FORCES (SYRIAN) AND MOTORCADE UNITS WILL CONSIST OF LEBANESE SECURITY AND GENDARMERIE FORCES. THE ROUTE ITSELF WILL FOLLOW THE AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD TO THE "AIRPORT CIRCLE," TURN RIGHT, FOLLOW THE MAIN ROAD THROUGH SHIYAH TO THE INTERSECTION OF THE DAMASCUS ROAD, TURN RIGHT, FOLLOW THE DAMASCUS ROAD FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE-FOURTH MILE, TURN RIGHT ON TO THE YARZE/BAABDA ACCESS ROAD TO YARZE RESIDENCE AND BAABDA PALACE. RETURN MOTORCADES WILL FOLLOW SAME ROUTES.

7. RSO WILL MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH COL NASSIF TO DISCUSS PALACE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS UPON ARRIVAL OF SA MCCARTHY.

8. LEBANESE AUTHORITIES HAVE REQUESTED, AND WE HAVE
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AGREED, TO ASSIST WITH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. RSO CAN PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FROM POST RESOURCES.

9. SPECIFIC PROBLEMS AND QUESTIONS WILL BE DISCUSSED AS THEY ARISE AND A FINAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD WITH ALL CONCERNED ON FEB 17 AT 1000.
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